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Foreign Crops and MARKETS

VOLUME 54 NUMBER 10

World Wheat Crop in 1946 Is 13 Percent Larger Than Previous Year's But Still Short of Urgent Food Needs, Especially in Europe (Page 165)

World Flue-Cured Tobacco Crop in 1946 Set New Record, Topping 1939 Peak by 8 Percent (Page 169)

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

LATE NEWS

A national conference of farm leaders and Provincial Government representatives at a recent Ottawa meeting, called by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, went on record as favoring legislation regulating marketing of farm products in interprovincial and export trade. Federation directors were requested to place before the Government a draft for a Federal agricultural products act to be dealt with at the present Parliament session. The proposed act would set up a dominion marketing board with control over distribution, quantity, quality, variety, and maximum and minimum prices of regulated farm products in interprovincial and export markets.

The 1946-47 wheat crop in the Union of South Africa is expected to total 4,750,000 bags of 200 pounds, a sharp reduction from the 5-1/2 to 6 million predicted earlier. The decrease is due largely to the failure of wheat to fill properly, in view of freezing weather in late July and of drought. The Orange Free State is expected to show the largest decline, Similar decreases are expected in estimates for barley, oats, and rye, and the Wheat Control Board feels that it will be necessary to import 1-1/2 to 2 million bags of wheat this year.

Cuba has waived import duties, consular fees, and other taxes on 20,000 cases of fresh eggs (30 dozen each) which may be imported before December 31, 1947. This action, effective February 6, is designed to ease the egg and meat shortage. Since Cuba imported about 100,000 cases in 1946 under a similar decree, the present quantity may possibly be increased during the year.

The Finnish Cabinet has granted authority for signing an agreement with Argentina for a credit of about $18 million which will enable Finland to purchase 50,000 tons of rye and 25,000 tons of wheat at an early date.

A Swiss-Danish trade agreement for 1947 signed recently provides for Denmark to deliver goods valued at $18.7 million, consisting mainly of farm products such as cattle for slaughter. Quotas are provided for Danish butter, eggs, potatoes, fish, leather, hides, and hay. Switzerland will export manufactured goods and chemical products.

Shanghai expects to ration vital food items by March 1 under a plan yet to be approved by the Central Government. Monthly allotments would include about 11 quarts of rice per capita and 4-1/2 pounds each of sugar, salt, and vegetable oil per family. The step is taken reportedly to aid salaried workers who have been most affected by recent price rises. The new ration plan is expected to be extended gradually throughout China.

WORLD WHEAT PRODUCTION STILL BELOW AVERAGE

The 1946 world wheat production of 5.9 billion bushels was 600 million above the short 1945 crop of 5.2 billion, but nearly 100 million below the 1935-39 average of 6.0 billion bushels, according to the latest estimate of the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Outturns were larger than in 1945 in all major producing areas except Australia and India. Reductions from average were greatest in Europe and the Soviet Union, where acreage is still significantly smaller than during the prewar period. Production in North America and Asia was above average, the gain in North America amounting to about 45 percent. Harvests in South America and Africa were at the 1935-39 level.

Abnormally large wheat import requirements for Europe continue, as a result of another below-average harvest of wheat and other grains, depletion of stocks, the necessity for increasing reduced ration levels, and shortages of other foodstuffs. Wheat exports from North America during the last half of 1946 amounted to about 268 million bushels, compared with 414 million bushels exported during a similar period in 1945. Supplies available for export were lower because of reduced carry-over, and the volume of movement was reduced to some extent by transportation and labor difficulties. With the continued deficit of breadstuffs in Europe and smaller supplies of wheat than a year ago in the principal exporting countries, it appears that a larger proportion of the deficit will have to be filled through the use of substitute grains, particularly corn.

Wheat production in North America was the largest on record, with the crop of 1,156 million bushels in the United States exceeding the previous year's record by about 48 million bushels. The 1946 crop was 46 percent larger than the average (1935-39) with acreage increased only 17 percent. The Canadian crop of 421 million was 35 percent above average, also reflecting high yields, since the acreage was only slightly above average.

Production of 1,350 million bushels in Europe in 1946 was midway between the very small 1945 crop of 1,030 million and the 1935-39 average of 1,670 million. The improvement over the 1945 harvest was attributed to increased acreage and better growing conditions over much of the Continent. Drought over parts of central Europe, and particularly parts of the Balkan countries, however, reduced yields in those areas again in 1946. In France and Italy production of about 250 million each was above 1945 by about 70 million and below prewar by about 35 million. Bulgaria had the most favorable conditions of any of the Balkan countries, with production about normal after the small crop of 1945. In Hungary, the situation was least favorable, and the crop was only about 40 percent of average, according to official statistics. Unfavorable weather during the harvest season in the United Kingdom caused some damage to the crop, which is still above average, however, because of the relatively large acreage.

Estimates for European countries with changed boundaries have been, so far as possible, adjusted to 1937 frontiers to make them comparable with

WHEAT: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, average 1935-39, annual 1944-46 a/

Continent and country	Acreage b/				Yield per acre				Production			
	Average 1935-39	1944	1945	1946	Average 1935-39	1944	1945	1946	Average 1935-39	1944	1945	1946
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:												
Canada	25,595	23,284	23,414	25,900	12.2	17.9	13.6	16.2	312,399	416,635	318,512	420,725
Mexico	1,244	1,303	1,158	1,193	11.5	10.6	11.0	11.4	14,284	13,757	12,741	13,547
United States	57,293	59,095	65,120	67,201	13.2	18.1	17.0	17.2	758,623	1,072,177	1,108,224	1,155,715
Estimated total c/	84,170	83,750	89,750	94,350	-	-	-	-	1,086,000	1,503,000	1,440,000	1,590,000
Europe:												
Albania	99	135	109	135	15.2	12.3	13.9	16.3	1,507	1,655	1,515	2,205
Austria	631	535	470	575	24.9	21.5	19.1	17.9	15,708	11,500	9,000	10,300
Belgium	402	540	455	375	40.2	41.3	30.8	42.7	16.150	22,300	14,000	16,000
Bulgaria d/	3,080	3,337	3,102	3,768	20.8	17.4	13.5	18.0	64,076	57,974	41,818	67,652
Czechoslovakia	2,220	-	-	2,315	26.6	-	-	21.6	59,090	-	-	50,000
Denmark	316	208	216	223	45.4	48.8	47.6	49.4	14,358	10,141	10,288	11,023
Eire	225	642	662	641	34.2	31.8	32.3	14.6	7,689	20,388	21,394	9,333
Estonia	168	-	-	-	16.4	-	-	-	2,752	-	-	-
Finland e/	264	314	342	364	26.6	18.7	17.8	17.5	7,013	5,871	6,076	6,379
France	12,560	f/ 10,378	9,400	10,600	22.8	f/ 24.7	19.6	23.6	286,510	f/256,285	184,000	250,000
Germany	5,071	4,401	-	-	34.8	31.8	-	-	176,395	139,928	-	-
Greece	2,150	-	1,640	1,912	14.0	-	10.2	14.9	30,205	-	16,800	28,500
Hungary	4,091	3,802	1,816	2,867	22.3	21.5	13.3	12.9	91,210	81,844	24,177	37,045
Italy g/	12,635	11,900	11,600	12,000	22.1	20.0	14.6	20.4	279,519	238,000	169,000	245,000
Latvia	346	-	-	-	19.0	0	-	-	6,584	-	-	-
Lithuania	512	-	-	-	17.6	-	-	-	9,013	-	-	-
Luxembourg	47	42	32	40	25.9	21.0	20.7	23.9	1,215	882	661	955
Netherlands	338	363	295	302	43.8	32.7	27.1	43.6	14,791	11,868	8,004	13,180
Norway	80	117	118	95	29.9	21.4	26.7	29.1	2,391	2,500	3,152	2,761
Poland	4,303	-	-	-	18.0	-	-	-	77,245	-	-	-
Portugal	1,227	1,265	1,248	1,253	13.1	10.7	8.7	14.7	16.092	13,542	10,899	18,372
Rumania	9,053	-	-	-	15.6	-	-	-	140,816	-	-	-
Spain	h/ 11,253	8,896	8,896	9,409	h/ 14.0	12.9	8.2	14.1	h/157,986	115,154	73,000	133,110
Sweden	740	676	731	750	35.6	29.5	29.6	33.1	26,351	19,941	21,616	24,827
Switzerland	183	243	242	240	33.1	37.4	33.9	35.4	6,050	9,083	8,194	8,500
United Kingdom	1,843	3,220	2,274	2,066	33.8	36.4	35.7	33.2	62,361	117,152	81,237	68,693
Yugoslavia	5,349	-	-	-	18.1	-	-	-	96,701	-	-	-
Estimated total c/	79,200	71,300	62,700	70,800	-	-	-	-	1,670,000	1,465,000	1,030,000	1,350,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	98,764	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asia:												
Iran	i/ 4,191	3,500	-	-	i/ 17.2	21.8	-	-	i/ 72,128	76,426	77,161	76,426
Iraq	i/ 1,724	2,162	2,100	2,000	i/ 10.7	5.9	7.9	7.4	18,114	12,860	16,534	14,700
Lebanon	j/	130	148	161	j/	5.6	13.4	16.0	j/	734	1,984	2,572
Palestine	533	340	339	340	6.1	6.1	6.3	7.1	3,244	2,076	2,144	2,400
Syria	j/ 1,363	1,428	1,854	1,827	j/ 14.3	12.1	7.7	10.6	j/ 19,485	17,329	14,311	19,312
Turkey	8,952	8,654	9,243	9,246	15.2	13.4	8.7	19.5	135,690	115,683	80,443	180,000
China	i/ 48,120	-	53,000	55,153	i/ 15.7	-	16.0	15.6	715,536	-	850,000	859,364
Manchuria	2,903	1,493	1,295	-	12.1	9.2	11.2	-	35,200	13,766	14,451	-
India	34,492	33,961	35,980	34,559	10.7	10.7	10.9	9.6	370,660	363,664	393,904	332,379
Japan	1,738	2,058	1,789	1,495	28.8	24.8	19.4	15.1	50,133	51,004	34,756	22,597
Korea	832	-	-	-	12.3	-	-	-	10,240	9,628	-	-
Estimated total c/	106,300	108,600	111,600	110,700	-	-	-	-	1,446,000	1,505,000	1,510,000	1,545,000

South America:												
Argentina	15,834	10,776	10,108	14,000	14.0	13.9	14.2	15.8	221,769	150,108	143,556	221,342
Brazil	443	-	-	-	10.5	-	-	-	4,657	6,284	8,701	9,229
Chile	1,963	1,989	1,803	1,873	16.1	16.8	19.0	18.1	31,562	33,405	34,176	33,928
Peru	285	251	290	280	11.5	12.2	11.0	11.8	3,274	3,069	3,200	3,300
Uruguay	1,210	868	875	1,008	11.0	7.7	9.1	9.1	13,255	6,645	7,958	9,137
Estimated total c/	20,500	15,100	14,300	18,500	-	-	-	-	281,000	205,000	202,000	282,000
Africa:												
Algeria	4,184	3,496	3,272	3,326	8.4	7.6	3.4	10.5	35,201	26,455	11,023	35,000
Egypt	1,464	1,714	1,710	1,646	31.3	20.3	25.4	26.0	45,848	34,760	43,436	42,725
French Morocco	3,254	2,891	2,286	2,122	7.1	6.2	2.7	11.7	23,198	17,821	5,748	24,781
Tunisia	1,915	1,606	1,900	1,589	7.8	4.3	3.3	7.5	14,965	6,908	6,357	11,942
Union of South Africa	1,926	2,514	2,244	2,700	8.4	4.5	4.2	6.8	16,259	11,413	9,493	18,267
Estimated total c/	13,800	13,600	12,800	12,700	-	-	-	-	143,000	107,000	85,000	142,000
Oceania:												
Australia	13,128	8,463	11,426	12,371	12.9	6.2	12.5	9.4	169,744	52,880	142,410	116,800
New Zealand	221	184	162	140	32.3	38.0	33.3	32.1	7,129	6,992	5,400	4,500
Total	13,349	8,647	11,588	12,511	-	-	-	-	176,873	59,872	147,810	121,300
Estimated world total c/	416,100	376,000	389,700	408,600	-	-	-	-	5,962,000	5,595,000	5,215,000	5,880,000

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign service officers, results of office research, and other information. Estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to prewar boundaries except as noted.

a/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1946 is combined with the Southern Hemisphere harvest which began late in 1946 and ended early in 1947.

b/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible.

c/ Estimated totals include allowance for missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown.

d/ Estimates for 1944 to date include Southern Dobrudja and are, therefore, not strictly comparable with earlier years shown.

e/ Estimates for 1944 to date take account of boundary changes and are, therefore, not comparable with earlier years shown.

f/ Official estimates adjusted to include Alsace Lorraine.

g/ Official estimates for 1944 to date adjusted to prewar boundaries.

h/ Figure for 1935 only.

i/ Average of less than 5 years.

j/ Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately prior to 1944.

prewar data. If production were shown for territory in present boundaries, a part of the production included in the European total would be shifted to the estimate for the Soviet Union. European territory incorporated in the Soviet Union (including Bessarabia, Bukovina, Ruthenia, eastern Poland, the Baltic States, and part of Finland) is estimated to have averaged about 80 million bushels of wheat in the prewar period.

Official data are not available for the Soviet Union, but the wheat harvest was estimated to be slightly larger than in 1945. It is still substantially below the prewar level, however. A shift from wheat to rye acreage reported in recent years, as well as low yields, accounts for the low production level.

Asia's total wheat harvest in 1946 was estimated to be a near-record crop, mainly because of China's reported large outturn of 859 million bushels. That estimate is about 20 percent larger than the average of 716 million bushels. Wheat acreage is also substantially larger than average, and yields were slightly above average. The outturn in Turkey was reported to be the largest on record, with both acreage and per-acre yields above average. In contrast, the crop in India, reported at 332 million bushels, was somewhat below average, as a result of unfavorable weather conditions, and about 15 percent less than the large 1945 harvest.

An average crop of 221 million bushels is reported for Argentina, an improvement over both 1944 and 1945 when production was considerably below average. Despite the larger crop, however, smaller carry-over stocks at the beginning of 1947 reduced the total supply for this year almost to the low level of a year ago. Prospects for the 1946 outturn were uncertain earlier in the season. The crop matured and was harvested earlier than usual, with threshing returns exceeding early expectations. Above-average crops were reported for Chile, but the crop was somewhat below average in Uruguay. Lowered yields were partly ascribed to locust damage in that country.

The estimated wheat crop of about 142 million bushels for all Africa is about average and about 65 percent larger than the poor 1945 outturn. Good harvests in Algeria and French Morocco bring those countries back to average levels in marked contrast with the virtual failure of the crop last year. Unusually favorable weather conditions accounted for the recovery in both countries, where above-average yields counteracted smaller-than-average seedlings. A good recovery is also reported for Tunisia, though the production was below average largely because of the smaller acreage. The Egyptain crop was around average in 1946 as it was in 1945. Increased acreage is credited with the maintained production level, since yields were somewhat below average both years. Larger-than-average production in the Union of South Africa was also the result of increased acreage.

(Continued on page 183)

WORLD'S FLUE-CURED TOBACCO PRODUCTION SETS RECORD 1/

World production of flue-cured tobacco during 1946 is estimated to have been about 1,773 million pounds, or 8 percent larger than the previous record of 1,640 million pounds in 1939. Last year's crop was about 15 percent larger than the revised estimate of 1,547 million pounds produced in 1945. Production during 1935-39 averaged 1,238 million pounds. Continued heavy demands at extremely favorable prices to growers in most countries brought about a sharp increase in world flue-cured acreage for the 1946 harvest. The crops in Far Eastern countries in 1946, as in the previous season, remained well below the prewar average, but in most other producing countries, the harvest reached new high levels.

FLUE-CURED TOBACCO: Production in specified countries, 1946 with comparisons (year of harvest basis)

Country	Average production 1930-34	Average production 1935-39	1945	1946
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Canada	22,861	54,616	75,353	113,511
Mexico	a/	b/ 800	2,600	3,400
United States	639,713	863,398	1,173,459	1,322,246
Italy	238	2,846	1,930	c/
China	117,500	150,900	65,000	90,000
Manchuria	2,177	13,930	37,000	30,000
India	4,882	26,880	62,400	62,380
Japan	29,379	62,355	c/	c/
Taiwan (Formosa)	609	3,601	c/	c/
Korea	6 206	11,839	c/	c/
Java	400	b/ 5,292	d/	d/
Argentina	a/	b/ 816	5,081	7,790
Brazil	a/	c/	18,188	33,000
Nyasaland	3,840	2,238	2,132	2,586
Southern Rhodesia	12,509	21,633	46,805	43,000
Union of South Africa	b/ 625	3,170	8,212	13,774
Australia	5,672	5,013	2,844	2,688
New Zealand	1,265	1,367	3,289	4,080
Other countries e/	1,400	1,400	5,300	5,400
Total, countries with specified production	849,276	1,232,094	1,509,593	1,733,855
Total, including estimates of production for countries where figures are not available	850,000	1,238,000	1,547,000	1,773,000

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled or estimated from official sources and reports of United States consular officers.

a/ Production unimportant. b/ Less than a 5-year average. c/ Not available. d/ Not available, but believed to be insignificant. e/ Includes Northern Rhodesia, Kenya, Tanganyika, Mauritius, and Nicaragua.

1/ Reprints of this article may be obtained from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

United States. The 1946 crop of flue-cured leaf reached an all-time high of 1,322 million pounds from 1,185 thousand acres, according to the most recent official estimate. Last year's production was 53 percent above the 5-year (1935-39) average, and considerably larger than the 1,173-million pound harvest of 1945. United States production of flue-cured in 1946 represented about 75 percent of the total world outturn. During the prewar (1935-39) period this country's share in the world total averaged about 70 percent.

Canada. In 1946 the flue-cured crop totaled about 114 million pounds from 96,000 acres. The large planted area and generally favorable weather conditions resulted in a crop of record proportions. The 1946 crop was about 51 percent larger than 1945 production and more than double the prewar (1935-39) average production of 55 million pounds.

Brazil. Unofficial estimates place the 1946 harvest of flue-cured leaf, produced largely in Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina, at about 33 million pounds. This represents a record crop, and indications point to continued large harvests of flue-cured. Heavy demands to meet requirements of domestic cigarette manufacturers and to a lesser extent foreign purchases have induced growers to plant larger acreages of leaf for flue-curing.

China. Flue-cured production for 1946 is placed at about 90 million pounds, considerably more than the 1945 harvest, but about 40 percent below average prewar (1935-39) production of 151 million pounds. Reports indicate that part of the crop, grown principally in Shantung, Anhwei, Kiangsu, and Honan Provinces, may not reach large manufacturing centers in volume, because of existing political conditions and inadequate transportation. The country probably will be forced to import considerable quantities of flue-cured in 1947, if cigarette production is to be maintained.

India. In 1946 flue-cured tobacco prodution totaled 62 million pounds from 113,000 acres. This was approximately equal to the 1945 outturn, but more than double the average prewar production. The continued short food resources may result in a somewhat lower acreage in 1947. India ranks next to Canada as the largest flue-cured producing country in the British Commonwealth.

Southern Rhodesia. The 1946 crop of flue-cured leaf amounted to about 43 million pounds, as compared with the 47 million pounds, produced the previous year, and the 5-year (1935-39) average of only 22 million pounds.

Other Far Eastern Countries. Flue-cured tobacco production in Manchuria, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan (Formosa) in 1946 is estimated at a total of 67 million pounds. The Manchuria crop was placed at about 30 million pounds, or slightly less than the 1945 outturn, but considerably above the prewar average. Production in the other countries was placed at about one-half the prewar average. The estimates are at best rough approximations since little information regarding tobacco production has come forward from these areas.

Other countries. Flue-cured leaf is also produced in significant quantities in several countries, in addition to those already mentioned. The Union of South Africa had a 1946 crop of about 14 million pounds. Argentina produced about 8 million pounds last year. New Zealand's production has been increasing in recent years, and in 1946 an outturn of 4 million pounds was recorded. The 1946 crops in Australia, Nyasaland, Italy, and Northern Rhodesia ranged from 2 to 3 million pounds. Other less significant producers of flue-cured leaf were Mauritius, Venezuela, Tanganyika, and Nicaragua.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects, approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman; C. M. Purves, H. W. Taylor, F. S. Everts, and Karl J. Pelzer.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDS

NEAR-RECORD RICE CROP IN EGYPT

In Egypt, the bumper rice harvest of 1946 was nearly equal to that of the 1942 record, and exceeded the prewar (1935-39) average by 13 million bushels (375 million pounds milled). The September-October harvest was larger than first anticipated because (1) farmers planted more rice than was originally expected, and (2) yields per acre were the highest since 1939.

The area planted to rice in 1946 was about the same as in the preceding year. The decrease that was expected in favor of cotton failed to materialize, and some rice was planted on acreages otherwise used for corn. The high yields harvested were produced by means of plentiful water supplies, an increase in the practice of transplanting of rice, and the use of cottonseed meal for fertilizer.

The surplus available for exportation from this crop was reported at 440 million pounds, provided a like amount of other grains were imported for domestic needs. Out of 322 million pounds exported during the November-October period of 1945-46, 248 million were shipped to Ceylon. Rice also was exported to Palestine, Aden, Saudi Arabia, and Greece.

Producers received $3.17 per 100 pounds for paddy from the 1945 crop, and for the 1946 crop the price was increased to $3.37 per 100 pounds. The maximum fixed wholesale price for white rice at the mills was $5.35 per 100 pounds until fixed for the 1946 crop at $5.55 per 100 pounds for milled rice of average quality.

EGYPT: Rice production, trade, and apparent utilization, average 1930-39, annual 1942-46

Year	Acreage	Yield per acre	Production		Net a/ exports b/	Apparent a/ utilization b/
			Rough	Milled		
	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Average:						
1930-34	352	59.3	20,876	611	146	465
1935-39	463	71.6	33,155	970	264	706
1942	699	65.9	46,044	1,347	228	1,119
1943	667	50.3	33,570	982	340	642
1944	643	62.1	39,908	1,167	148	1,019
1945	654	64.9	42,454	1,242	c/ 322	920
1946	656	70.1	45,973	1,345	d/ 440	-

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Rough rice is converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. b/ During calendar year following harvest. c/ November-October 1945-46. d/ Estimate of exportable surplus.

Another large rice crop may be produced in 1947, providing water supplies from the Nile River are normal. Current high prices appear to be influencing the use of better methods for growing the crop, which result in higher yields per acre. The larger acreage and production since 1942, however, have resulted from restrictions in the cotton acreage, and a return to prewar cotton plantings in the future would tend to reduce rice acreage proportionately.

URUGUAY EXTENDS RICE ACREAGE

The 1946-47 rice acreage of Uruguay is unofficially estimated to be 12 percent larger than last year's, and 57 percent more than 2 years ago. An estimate of this year's crop, which is about ready for harvest, is not yet available. Rice production, started in the 1930's, proved to be an easier crop to grow under irrigation that first expected, and has gained substantially in recent years. The greatest expansion in acreage, however, occurred in the last two seasons.

The production of recent years has not afforded a proportionate gain in exportable supplies, since rice consumption is steadily increasing. The current high rate of consumption is attributed to the low price of rice in comparison with other foods in this country. On January 7, a decree authorized the exportation of 8.8 million pounds of "Carolina" and "Japanese" rice, but 1 week later this decree was supended. The latter action was believed due to consideration of availabilities in domestic supplies.

URUGUAY: Rice production, trade, and apparent utilization, averages 1931-40, annual 1944-47

Year	Acres	Yield per acre	Production		Trade a/		Apparent utilization a/
			Rough	Milled a/	Net imports	Net exports	
	1,000 acres	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Average -							
1931-35	3	67.0	201	5,879	10,200	-	16,079
1936-40	13	66.6	866	25,331	-	3,584	21,747
1944	13	65.3	849	24,833	73	-	24,906
1945	16	64.4	1,030	30,128	-	2	30,126
1946	21	67.8	1,423	41,623	-	1,543	40,080
1947 b/	25	(66.6)	(1,665)	(48,700)	-	-	-

Compiled from official sources.

a/ Rough rice is converted to terms of milled at 65 percent. b/ Unofficial.

FATS AND OILS

ARGENTINE CATTLE-FAT EXPORTS AT LOW LEVEL

Argentine exports of tallow and other cattle fats and oils in 1946 of 36,227 short tons showed a sharp drop from the 62,874 tons in 1945, 107,037 tons in 1944, and 66,200 tons for the 1935-39 period. Tallow exports in the last half of 1946 were especially small, as nearly 30,000 tons had been exported before July 31.

Part of the decline in movement may have been due to difficulties in reaching a decision on prices at which unsold stocks could be offered to foreign buyers. Domestic supplies, which are reported to be ample, are assured by an order issued in October that tallow producers must make 58 percent of their output available to local users.

Cattle received at slaughter houses late in the season carried considerable fat, and tallow stocks are believed to be rising. Although the Argentine cattle numbers are almost equal to the prewar (1936-40) average of 33,762,000 head, and beef-and-veal slaughter is only slightly below the prewar level, tallow exports during 1946 were about half the prewar volume. Shortages of railroad cars, strikes of slaughter-house workers, and delays in setting livestock prices tended to restrict slaughter and incidently tallow output. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, April 8, 1946, page 198.)

Argentina normally exports more tallow and beef fats than any other country. In 1935-39, 66,000 of the 240,000 tons entering into international trade were exported as tallow from Argentina. Annual exports in recent years have fluctuated widely from 124,500 tons in 1942 to the low of

36,227 tons in 1946. The more important importers of tallow from Argentina in the 1946 were Soviet Union, Mexico, United Kingdom, Switzerland, and France.

ARGENTINA: Exports of tallow and cattle fats and oils,
calendar years 1943-46
(Gross weight)

Countries of destination	1943	1944	1945	1946
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
North and Central America:				
British West Indies and Honduras	1,108	1,910	2,731	1,049
Cuba	10,814	2,097	3,731	1,202
Mexico	4,710	2,755	10,840	6,429
United States a/	5,591	14,611	4,689	71
Others	1,127	1,595	701	1,196
Total	23,350	22,968	22,692	9,947
South America:				
Brazil	3,672	21,110	2,155	-
Chile	8,503	2,984	3,548	560
Colombia	1,751	2,977	3,246	696
Ecuador	1,708	14	763	486
Peru	3,799	2,374	894	606
Venezuela	1,472	1,551	2,160	99
Others	613	27	181	142
Total	21,518	31,037	12,947	2,589
Europe:				
Belgium	-	-	1,428	761
France	-	-	138	2,572
Portugal	2,415	880	691	99
Spain	1,044	1,093	1,841	439
Sweden	3,478	2,008	635	714
Switzerland	2,893	2,554	398	4,026
United Kingdom	27,347	45,477	19,982	5,380
Others	-	-	1,775	2,332
Total	37,177	52,012	26,888	16,323
Soviet Union	-	-	-	7,355
Africa:(total)	860	1,020	347	13
Grand total	82,905	107,037	62,874	36,227

Compiled in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations from date submitted by the American Embassy, Buenos Aires.

a/ Includes exports to Canada.

Correction: On page 142 of the February 24th issue, United States flaxseed imports for 1946 should have read (in 1,000 bushels) 200 from Mexico and 2,566 from Uruguay.

MALAYA SETS EXPORT DUTY ON PALM PRODUCTS

The Malayan Union has imposed an export duty of 5 percent ad valorem on copra, palm oil, and coconut oil. Fixed values in Straits dollars per long ton are: Copra 343 ($145 per short ton), palm oil 600 ($253), and coconut oil 600 ($253). Exports of all three products are subject to license.

During 1935-39, Malaya ranked third as an exporter of copra and coconut oil, and palm-oil shipments averaged approximately 50,000 tons annually. The bulk of the copra trade was with the United Kingdom and continental Europe while the palm oil went chiefly to the United Kingdom and Canada.

INDIA INCREASES TUNG CULTIVATION

India's 4,000 acres devoted to tung cultivation in 1946 shows a sharp increase over the 1939 level of only 900. The area was confined to certain tea plantations in Assam and north Bengal with the exception of a few experimental projects in Bihar and Punjab.

The majority of the trees are less than 7 years old. The yield of dried nuts per acre varies greatly, averaging about 800 pounds. Practically all the nuts are crushed by expellers at the Gourepori oil mill in Naihati, Bengal.

The 1946-47 oil output is estimated at approximately 90 short tons, compared with 85 tons in 1945-46 and an average of 50 tons for the past 4 years. The entire output of oil is consumed within the country for paint manufacture. In addition, from 190 to 300 tons are imported annually, principally from China, bringing total annual consumption to 280 390 tons. Indian tung oil sells for approximately 3,000 rupees per long ton ($812 per short ton).

Note: In last week's Foreign Crops and Markets, the last line of the first paragraph on page 149 should have read "almost equal the 1946 peanut acreage in this country".

FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND NUTS

CANNED-CITRUS OUTPUT UP IN SOUTH AFRICA

Production of canned citrus products in South Africa now utilizes about 5 percent of the crop, of about 12,000 tons, according to a recent Consular Report. Canned grapefruit is the major product.

Canned grapefruit production is estimated at 1,379,950 pounds in the 1945-46 season, compared with 1,118,197 pounds in 1944-45 and 570,702 pounds in 1943-44.

Grapefruit-juice production totaled 256,012 pounds in 1945-46, 156,908 pounds in 1944-45, and 111,199 pounds in 1943-44. A total of 266,165 pounds of orange juice was canned in 1945-46. No orange juice is reported for earlier years.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERS

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date: 1947	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U. S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good	2-27	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	43.00	35.84
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	2-27	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	38.75	32.30
Giza 7, Good	2-27	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	41.00	34.18
Karnak, Good	2-27	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	41.75	34.80
Karnak, F.G.F.	2-27	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	39.25	32.72
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, Fine	2-27	784 lbs.	Rupee	435.00	16.73
Broach, Fine	2-27	784 lbs.	Rupee	533.00	20.50
Sind American, Fine	2-27	784 lbs.	Rupee	559.00	21.50
Punjab " , 289-F, Fine	2-27	784 lbs.	Rupee	625.00	24.04
Kampala, East African	2-27	784 lbs.	Rupee	920.00	35.38
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B	3-1	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	2140.00	28.90
Lima		Sp.quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5	3-1	101.4 lbs.	Sol	150.00	22.76
Pima, Type 1 (Nominal)	3-1	101.4 lbs.	Sol	181.00	27.46
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 5	2-28	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	140.00	23.03
Sertao, Type 5	2-28	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	145.00	23.85
Sao Paulo		Arroba			
Sao Paulo, Type 5	2-28	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	169.50	27.89
Torreon		Sp.quintal			
Middling, 15/16"	2-28	101.4 lbs.	Peso	142.00	28.81

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

TOBACCO

BRITISH EAST AFRICA'S TOBACCO CROP SMALLER

British East Africa's 1946 tobacco production totaled 4,097,000 pounds, or slightly less than the 1945 outturn of 4,272,000 pounds, according to a report from the American Consulate General at Nairobi. The decline is accounted for by lower production of flue-cured leaf, which amounted to 1,217,000 pounds in 1946, compared with 1,525,000 the previous year. The outturn of fire-cured leaf showed a slight increase in 1946 over the previous year.

Most of East Africa's flue-cured is grown in Tanganyika, which in 1946 produced about 1,036,000 pounds. Lesser quantities were produced in Kenya and Uganda. The total 1946 crop of fire-cured, produced chiefly in Uganda and Tanganyika, amounted to 2,800,000 pounds. About 80,000 pounds of air-cured leaf were produced in East Africa last year.

Imports of unmanufactured tobacco into British East Africa during 1945 totaled 1.5 million pounds, of which the United States supplied 80 percent. Imports of tobacco products, chiefly cigarettes from the United Kingdom, amounted to 192,000 pounds. Exports of leaf were 360,000 pounds, principally to the United Kingdom and nearby African countries. Exports of products totaled 1,470,000 pounds, largely cigarettes destined to the Belgian Congo.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

WORLD OUTPUT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS
FOURTH QUARTER SUMMARY 1946

In the last quarter of 1946, the production of manufactured dairy products in most of the major producing countries of the world increased over the same period a year earlier. In these months, more milk was available for manufactured products in Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, and in the United Kingdom. Greater quantities were also available in the United States and Argentina, but in Australia and New Zealand supplies of milk had not been fully restored from the adverse effect of droughts.

Pastures in the Netherlands in the fall of 1946 were much improved over the unfavorable conditions earlier in the season. Favroable fall pasture conditions also prevailed in other western European countries and in the United Kingdom. While the pasture and feed situation in the United States and Canada was favorable, heavy culling of cows had reduced numbers which lowered the total milk output.

Butter production in the fourth quarter of 1946 increased in most countries, as compared with the final quarter of 1945. In the United States, where output ran well ahead of last year, butter production showed the greatest improvement of any dairy product manufactured in this country. This increase in output is largely the result of reduced utilization of milk for fluid milk and cream in the last quarter of 1946, which left more milk available for the manufacture of the more important dairy products than formerly. This increase in the closing quarter of 1946, however, was not sufficient to offset the low production of the earlier months, and butter output for the entire year was only about 84 percent of 1945.

In Canada, the other chief producing country of North America, butter production in the fourth quarter of 1946 dropped to 94 percent. Throughout 1946, milk production in Canada has lagged behind 1945. This decrease, together with the diversion of milk to the fluid trade, effected a decline in the output of both butter and cheese.

Conditions in Argentina in the last quarter of 1946 were the most favorable for production for any country in the Southern Hemisphere, with rainfall being regular and abundnat in these months. The resulting improvement to pastures has been reflected in an increased milk flow. Butter production in these months increased 23 percent over the corresponding months of 1945, 17 percent for the entire year compared with a year ago.

In continental Europe, production in the Netherlands in the fourth quarter showed the greatest increase, with output there rising 27 percent over the corresponding period a year earlier. In Switzerland, dairy conditions in the last three months improved slightly, and butter production in this period amounted to 10,031 thousand pounds, compared with 8,840 thousand pounds for the last quarter of 1945.

Cheese production in many countries in the final quarter of 1946 also showed an increase over the same period of 1945. Output in the United States in the last three months of 1946 amounted to 223,000 pounds, an increase of 13 percent. This improvement was particularly marked in the production of American cheese which in the three preceding quarters of 1946 lagged behind the output of the corresponding quarters of 1945, but which in the October-December period of 1946 rose 13 percent. Other varieties of whole milk cheese increased 11 percent. Canada's production in the closing quarter of 1946 dropped to 76 percent of the earlier years, the greatest decline in output of any of the principal cheese-producing countries. In Argentina, cheese production increased appreciably, amounting to 64,154 thousand pounds in the last quarter of 1946, compared with 54,151 thousand pounds in the corresponding quarter of 1945.

Canned-milk production in several countries in the fourth quarter of 1946 showed an improvement over a year ago, although it declined in the large producing countries of United States and Canada below the levels of a year earlier. Output in the United States was 96 percent of the fourth quarter of 1945, while in Canada it was 95 percent. The greatest increase in canned-milk production in this peroid occurred in Switzerland, where 2,778 thousand pounds were manufactured compared with 1,095 thousand pounds last year. In Cuba, production rose 4 percent over the final quarter of 1945.

Dried-milk production showed the smallest increase of any dairy product. Output in the United States in the fourth quarter of 1946 was 93 percent of the fourth quarter of 1945. In this period, production of whole-milk powder amounted to 79 percent of the same quarter of 1945, that of non-fat solids, 98 percent. Total dried-milk production in Canada was 43 percent above the last three months of 1945, showing the only increase for that country in this period. Of 10,727 thousand pounds of dried milk produced in Canada in the final quarter of 1946, 4,066 thousand pounds were dried-whole milk. In Argentina, in the months of October-December, 1946, dried-milk output was 36 percent above the same months of 1945.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Output in principal producing and exporting countries, 4th quarter (calendar) 1946, with comparisons

Country and product	Average 1934-38	Total 1945	Total 1946	1945 4th quarter	1946				4th quarter 1946/1945
					1st quarter	2d quarter	3d quarter	4th quarter	
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Butter a/									
Canada	248,119	293,541	270,150	48,716	30,085	93,468	100,635	45,962	94
United States	1,673,328	b/1,366,205	1,152,540	b/ 222,137	212,365	324,460	347,925	267,790	121
Belgium	46,179	c/ 40,801	c/ 48,025	c/ 9,304	c/ 4,819	c/ 14,533	b/c/ 17,941	c/ 10,732	115
Denmark	400,660	291,668	310,628	68,564	58,422	89,727	92,593	69,886	102
Eire	89,400	b/ 67,737	61,737	b/ 13,245	2,721	20,186	28,634	10,196	77
Finland	61,287	d/ 59,524	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Germany	792,000	e/	e/	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	201,000	85,184	116,264	20,913	10,586	35,444	43,733	26,501	127
Sweden	151,309	207,360	-	48,755	46,026	59,775	65,307	-	-
Switzerland	62,170	39,981	39,707	8,840	7,275	12,150	10,251	10,031	113
United Kingdom	44,200	18,100	24,954	1,613	3,181	10,573	8,064	3,136	194
Argentina	65,742	95,859	112,142	27,032	30,216	27,599	21,018	33,309	123
Union of South Africa	27,725	34,113	-	5,565	11,902	10,038	6,272	-	f/ 129
Australia	g/ 437,032	b/ 305,836	-	108,311	96,613	61,806	60,193	-	f/ 92
New Zealand - total	h/ 366,049	b/ 331,212	-	126,446	74,711	26,283	50,695	-	-
Export gradings	i/ 314,753	276,053	-	114,139	65,101	18,332	38,207	-	f/ 102
Cheese j/									
Canada	114,699	184,452	141,282	27,734	5,652	50,734	63,883	21,013	76
United States	643,234	b/1,116,209	1,095,675	b/ 198,150	203,310	352,740	316,425	223,200	113
Denmark	68,820	b/ 123,458	128,529	-	15,653	42,770	43,651	26,455	-
Italy k/	523,518	d/ 257,000	d/ 386,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands l/	266,549	82,388	-	10,324	4,766	55,140	b/ 55,735	-	-
Sweden	71,269	83,994	-	16,041	19,276	31,250	29,443	-	-
Switzerland	111,729	84,416	84,646	15,637	8,708	b/ 26,555	34,171	15;212	97
United Kingdom l/	109,000	49,863	55,374	5,376	5,914	18,861	21,146	9,453	176
Argentina	67,873	177,992	207,898	54,151	55,429	48,045	40,270	64,154	118
Union of South Africa	10,195	15,041	-	2,980	5,062	3,811	3,068	-	f/ 116
Australia	g/ 49,111	b/ 79,090	-	33,985	22,874	16,740	b/ 20,808	-	f/ 106
New Zealand - total	h/ 201,272	226,725	-	92,366	65,382	26,170	30,175	-	-
Export gradings	i/ 194,175	208,651	-	82,159	69,653	30,092	15,156	-	f/ 95

DAIRY PRODUCTS: Output in principal producing and exporting countries, 4th quarter (calendar) 1946, with comparisons

Country and product	Average 1934-38	Total 1945	Total 1946	1945 4th quarter	1946 1st quarter	1946 2d quarter	1946 3d quarter	1946 4th quarter	4th quarter 1946/1945
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Canned milk									
Canada m/	92,377	237,645	229,265	40,065	b/ 35,153	83,093	72,954	38,065	95
United States m/	2,469,535	5,088,314	4,494,515	814,130	886,675	1,551,990	1,273,245	782,605	96
Cuba	n/ 32,564	24,165	28,524	8,243	4,355	5,386	10,216	8,567	104
Denmark	40,785	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	304,896	-	38,118	-	1,409	13	19,546	17,150	-
Switzerland	14,198	11,897	15,049	1,095	1,413	5,889	b/ 4,969	2,778	254
United Kingdom	378,560	194,522	172,391	13,977	28,762	93,274	b/ 30,285	20,070	144
Argentina	-	7,684	9,438	2,932	2,491	2,158	1,936	2,853	97
Australia	g/ 38,867	b/ 99,228	-	b/ 41,760	25,731	b/ 20,598	-	-	-
New Zealand	n/ 11,273	20,669	-	9,311	7,050	2,331	-	-	-
Dried milk o/									
Canada	23,488	b/ 48,139	55,252	b/ 7,513	7,517	19,328	17,680	10,727	143
United States	n/ 203,555	861,628	816,725	124,647	172,030	315,240	213,720	115,735	93
Belgium	5,500	1,738	-	b/ 302	74	1,167	-	-	-
Denmark	2,205	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	56,438	5,897	29,984	1,646	85	11,283	b/ 17,403	1,213	74
Switzerland	2,381	7,007	6,186	1,232	1,098	2,214	1,904	970	79
United Kingdom	33,600	59,582	63,437	1,702	7,169	25,894	b/ 20,966	9,408	553
Argentina	p/	11,150	13,202	3,581	3,876	2,708	1,731	4,887	136
Australia	g/ 16,971	47,286	-	18,515	10,950	10,516	-	-	-
New Zealand	q/ 17,429	28,297	-	9,660	7,845	2,894	-	-	-

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled from official sources.

a/ Creamery butter. b/ Revised. c/ These figures represent controlled production of butter. d/ Estimated. e/ Total production of all butter is estimated at 880 million pounds in 1945 and in 1946. f/ Based on 2 months' production only. g/ Production year beginning July 1. h/ Production year beginning April 1. i/ Marketing year beginning August 1. j/ Factory cheese. k/ Total cheese, and includes cheese made from milk of sheep and goats. l/ Includes farm cheese. m/ Both bulk and case goods. n/ Less than a 5-year average. o/ Total dried-whole milk and dried-skim milk for human consumption. p/ Quantity small. q/ For 1938 only.

Current Conditions Abroad:

Buenos Aires: Pastures are good. Conditions are excellent for one of the most favorable dairy seasons in recent years.

Wellington: Recovery from the drought of a year ago has not occurred at as great a rate as was hoped for. Dairy production was further limited by adverse weather in October and November.

Sydney: Seasonal conditions are favorable in practically all the dairying districts of Australia, with the exception of the north coastal areas of New South Wales and many sections of Queensland.

Cork, Eire: The condition of cattle has declined generally during the winter. Owing to the scarcity and poor quality of fodder there has been a tendency to reduce herds.

Copenhagen: Since liberation in May 1945, world shortages of grain and proteinsfeeds have prevented Denmark from securing any of the former for feeding and relatively small quantities of the latter.

Note: In last week's Foreign Crops and Markets, footnote "c" for the wool table on page 154 should have read: "Exports from the Union of South Africa to individual continental European countries are not available. Estimate for South African exports included in total."

MISCELLANEOUS

COSTA RICA'S COFFEE CROP REVISED DOWNWARD

Costa Rica's Coffee Exchange Office has reduced its original estimate of the 1946-47 coffee crop from 364,000 bags to 334,000 bags (132 pounds each), of which about 265,000 bags will be available for export. This compares with an average total production of 418,000 bags for 1940-44, and an exportable production of 358,000 bags.

During 1946, Costa Rica exported 252,025 bags of green coffee, of which 75 percent was exported to the United States, 22 percent to Europe, and the remaining 3 percent to other Western Hemisphere countries and to Syria. Before the war, Costa Rica exported 75 percent of its coffee to Europe.

U. S. COFFEE IMPORTS AT RECORD HIGH

United States imports of coffee during 1946, according to preliminary data of the Bureau of the Census, were the highest on record, or 2.7 billion pounds, valued at 471 million dollars. From the standpoint of value, coffee is the country's leading import.

UNITED STATES: Imports a/ of coffee by country of origin, 1946 with comparisons

Country or continent	Average 1910-14 b/	Average 1925-29	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1945 c/	1946 c/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
North America:						
Canada	184	352	142	-	-	d/
Costa Rica	6,788	5,069	10,895	30,248	44,649	24,739
El Salvador	10,796	12,004	71,214	96,010	120,570	74,991
Guatemala	19,001	31,430	52,499	88,128	105,283	93,401
Honduras	339	1,811	1,014	3,851	5,872	4,618
Mexico	31,220	29,434	48,265	63,566	73,142	72,369
Nicaragua	1,665	7,640	14,328	28,127	27,209	26,724
Panama	196	4,253	376	95	-	
Panama Canal Zone	--	-	109	736	644	155
Caribbean:						
British West Indies	1,587	1,503	1,089	410	1,095	725
Cuba	30	33	6,402	10,710	1,556	-
Curacao NWI	168	349	107	4	-	-
Dominican Republic	1,197	2,615	6,186	17,673	34,523	25,093
Haiti	2,633	1,966	11,518	39,299	61,944	20,489
Other	3	123	-	-	-	-
Total	75,807	98,582	224,144	378,857	476,487	343,304
Europe (total) e/	18,008	5,552	7,871	-	-	310
Asia (total)	13,656	35,767	26,890	8,358	-	471
Africa (total)	49	2,099	29,132	25,856	8,615	54,714
South America:						
Brazil	673,059	965,041	1,095,027	1,121,320	1,547,322	1,540,084
Colombia	70,516	262,520	403,946	545,263	601,973	687,318
Ecuador	1,944	875	12,167	22,976	16,008	8,161
Peru	14	336	189	2,454	4,248	1,709
Surinam	452	167	1,576	759	-	-
Venezuela	45,807	54,826	37,347	59,906	61,827	92,711
Other	21	3,427	72	133	-	-
Total	791,813	1,287,192	1,550,324	1,752,811	2,231,378	2,329,983
Oceania (total)	6	633	-	17	-	2
Grand total	899,339	1,429,825	1,838,361	2,165,899	2,716,480	2,728,784 f/
Value (1,000 dollars)	101,455	297,059	139,723	221,739	345,749	470,708

Compiled in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations from Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States and records of the Bureau of the Census

a/ General imports prior to 1935; imports for consumption thereafter.

b/ Fiscal year ending June 30.

c/ Preliminary

d/ Less than 500 pounds.

e/ Reexports of coffee produced in the colonies.

f/ Includes imports of 9,276,000 pounds of roasted coffee. Breakdown by country not available at this date, but Puerto Rico imports the bulk of the roasted coffee.

No coffee is produced in continental United States. During 1946, 98 percent of the coffee entering this country was from the American producing countries. Brazil and Colombia supplied 56 percent and 25 percent, respectively, of total coffee imports.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDS (Con't)

WORLD WHEAT PRODUCTION STILL BELOW AVERAGE

(Continued from page 168)

Wheat production in Australia was only 117 million bushels, or about 70 percent of average, according to the latest official estimate. Earlier indications had been for a crop of 160 million bushels. Extreme brought conditions in the largest producing State, New South Wales, account for the bulk of the reduction, with lesser effect on the total from the virtual crop failure in Queensland. Other States reported average or better crops.

Current prospects for the 1947 wheat crop in Europe are uncertain, with effects of severe cold weather over much of the Continent not yet fully known. Present indications are, however, that parts of Europe may be even more dependent on imports in 1947-48 than they were in the current season. Fall seeding, which accounts for the bulk of the wheat acreage over much of Europe, was accomplished under generally favorable conditions, and the total winter wheat acreage seeded up to January 1 appeared to be larger than a year ago. Severe winter weather from that time on curtailed further field work, however, and the total winter wheat acreage may not be much larger than for the 1946 crop. Wheat entered the winter in good condition, but severe cold weather while the crop had insufficient snow cover, reduced prospects in some areas, and subsequent cold weather caused additional damage, according to reports.

If damage from winterkill should be heavy, as is reported, especially in France, Belgium, and the Netherlands, some increase in spring wheat acreage is expected. It would be difficult, however, to offset fully the loss of winter wheat acreages. Shortages of seed suitable for spring sowing, competition with the regular spring sowing campaign, and relatively high prices for other grains in France will tend to limit reseeding of wheat, especially since yields of spring wheat are smaller than winter grain in the regular winter wheat area.

Exceptions to the generally favorable seeding conditions last fall are noted for Sweden and Denmark, where the fall sown acreage was smaller, than for the 1946 crop. The acreage seeded in the United Kingdom, and Eire was also somewhat smaller than planned since heavy rainfall and storms interrupted the fall work.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the OFAR Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, Robert L. Gastineau, Judith E. Downey, Lazar Volin, Ardon B. Lewis, and Lois B. Bacon.